

The Hillsborough Recorder.

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New Series—Vol. 5, No. 12—

HILLSBOROUGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 21, 1877.

—Old Series, Vol. 66.

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AFTER MANY YEARS.

The Cause of the Mountain Meadow Massacre—A Terrible Revenge.

The story of the Mountain Meadow massacre is now more fully understood than ever before. In the spring of 1856 Elder Parley P. Pratt, of the Mormon community, seduced from her home the wife of H. H. McLean, a merchant, of San Francisco, to make her his seventh wife. On her flight the devoted husband and his two children, a very interesting boy and girl, in his father-in-law in New Orleans. Some time afterward the mother of the children, got the children and started back to Utah with them. On discovering this the doubly injured father started in pursuit. He came to New York, heard of Pratt there and traced him from this point to St. Louis. There he lost him. Then he left for New Orleans, where he heard that his wife and children were then going through Texas to Salt Lake, so off he started to Texas. In his search for the missing ones he had learned that his wife had assumed the name of Mrs. P. P. Parker, and while traveling through Texas he continued to intercept some letters which he found bearing this superscription. On breaking open the seal he saw they were written in cipher. He succeeded in finding the key to the cipher, however, and discovered that the letters were from Pratt and contained a request that the man with whom Mrs. McLean and her children were traveling should go to the neighborhood of Fort Gibson, in the Cherokee nation. Confused and dispirited, Mr. McLean returned to New Orleans, whence he started for Fort Gibson, assuming the name of Johnson. He made known his secret to the officers of the fort only. Here his vigilant and energetic pursuit of the fugitive was rewarded. He captured, not only his wife and children, but the scoundrel who bore the name of religion and called them from their home. The United States marshal took them before Commissioner John B. Ogden for trial. The case aroused intense excitement at the time, and the populace clamored for vengeance on the wretch who had deliberately plotted and planned the ruin of a prosperous and happy family.

The fugitive letters were produced in court, and Mr. McLean told such a pathetic story of his wrongs that Pratt only escaped lynching by being concealed in the jail. Even the complainant himself became so enraged at one time during the trial that in the very court to which he had come for justice he clutched his pistol to shoot Pratt then and there. And no wonder, for he was told the law was powerless to punish Pratt. Early next morning the Mormon rider was dismissed and left the place secretly, but McLean watched and pursued him, overtook him on his road and killed him in his tracks. With his children McLean returned to New Orleans, and the wife having meanwhile become a raving maniac was sent to an insane asylum.

It was this event, combined with the apprehended appointment of new territorial officers by the government, that led to the terrible massacre of immigrants at Mountain Meadow soon after—slight motives for such a terrible crime. The party numbered 140 people, men, women and children, who had left Arkansas in quest of a new home in California, the new gold field. The party, unsuspecting of harm, was traveling through Utah. An attack was made upon them by what they supposed were Indians. They resisted the attack, and kept the attacking party at bay with their rifles.

For five days the assault was kept up, and the exhausted party without any result being arrived at. All this time the assailants, indicated that the attacking party were savages. They were dressed and painted like Indians and imitated their ways so well as to completely deceive the immigrants. It is now known that while there may have been a few Indians among them, the attacking party were Mormon militia led by John D. Lee. When reinforcements joined Lee, he massed all the troops near a little spring, and made them a speech, telling them "his orders from headquarters were to kill all but the little children."

Then, at the head of his command, he approached the immigrant camp, most of the men having been killed and the women and children having been driven to the great joy of the immigrants, who dressed a pretty girl of their party all in white, and placed her outside of their defenses, to show that they, too, were disposed to be friendly. Then followed a parley, and Lee told the immigrants the little were alive with Indians. He advised them to leave their arms as a measure of safety, as the Indians wanted plunder and not blood, and the men would protect them back to the Mormon settlements. The immigrants at first objected, but finally consented, and marched off of their fortifications without the least apprehension of danger from their supposed friends. So at last

was in sight at this time. By Lee's order the men were separated from the women and children; the latter going to the front. Half a mile the devoted band had scarcely gone from their camp when, at the monster Lee's command, they were shot dead, every one except the seventeen little children of the party, whose lives the "council" had ordered should be spared. One hundred and twenty men, women and children were slain in cold blood. Before the women of the party had all been killed, one young girl is reported to have rushed from the crowd toward Lee, she first threw herself on her knees before him and begged him to let her live. She then rose up and, twining her arms about his neck, cried to him to spare her; that she was going to California to join her lover, who anxiously awaited her there, and to whom she was to be married on her arrival. He repaid her confidence by dragging her aside with vile intent, and because she resisted him and tried to defend herself with a knife she charged to have in her possession he shot her through the head.

For years after the perpetration of this daring crime the property of the murdered immigrants was only used by their murderers, and the fate of the missing ones for some time remained a mystery. Their death being held at the door of the savages. Some Indians did participate in the massacre, but they waited for the white savages to set them an example in human butchery, only rushing from their ambush to surround the immigrants when, by Lee's order, the first shots had been fired. After the massacre the bodies of the murdered immigrants were left on the open prairie to be devoured by the wolves. So closely was the secret of this terrible deed guarded that not even in the northern Mormon settlements was it known for a long time that any white men had participated in the slaughter. The first authentic tidings of the fate of the immigrants reached the outside world through Mr. William H. Rogers, a government agent, who heard something of it while enroute the plains in charge of a treasure train in 1857. The next year he was appointed Indian agent in Utah and was ordered to rescue the children whom it was believed the Mormons had saved from the savages.

With the impudence of brigands the "Latter Day Saints" demanded a ransom for their release. Mr. Rogers refused the demand and gathered the children together. To his amazement one of the children, then about eighty years old, told him one day that it was not Indians, but white men, that killed their parents. With a company of cavalry he went to the Mountain Meadows, where a horrible sight met his gaze. The skeletons of 120 men, women and children were spread upon the field, the flesh torn from the bones by hungry wolves and bullet wounds. A large quantity of hair from the heads of the women were gathered up from the sage bushes, and all the remains were given a Christian burial. A few days afterward two Mormon called on Mr. Rogers, and telling him "hearts were pressed with grief," said they would give him a true history of the Mountain Meadow massacre if he would spare their own lives. He told them to proceed, and they related to him the story told above, naming Lee as the leader. Some blooded stock, wagons, carriages and other property owned by the immigrants, they said, had been taken to the Mormon, fitting edification and sold at public auction for the benefit of the "Church," Brigham Young, it is said, kept one of the carriages and a piano for his own use.

In the Mormon version of the story of the massacre it was made to appear that the immigrants provoked both the Mormon settlements and the Indians in their progress through Utah. The Mormons said their destruction was chargeable to the Indians altogether, and that they were attacked because they had poisoned spring at which cattle drank and died, and that Indians ate the flesh of these animals and died also. But this has been pronounced absolutely untrue by those who have investigated the matter, and it was well established both before and at the time of Lee's trial that the murder of the unsuspecting immigrants was but the execution of a well laid plan ordered by the Mormon council, and that Lee not only executed but exceeded his sanguinary orders. With his own hand he killed and wounded women and children, lying helpless after the first volley. He shot a man down who held a child in his arms and who knew and recognized him through his disguise.

In November, 1874, Lee was arrested, and was soon after indicted for participation in this fearful crime. He had evaded pursuit for a long time, living with one of his eighteen wives, an English woman, among the Navajo Indians, where his hut was like an arsenal. His first trial continued through part of July and August, 1875, and on the testimony then adduced the jury failed to agree. During the

trial his cell was watched, and elaborate preparations for an intended escape were discovered. At this time one of his wives tried to see him, and, meeting with a refusal, she assaulted the jailer. In September, 1876, he was again tried, and the jury found him guilty of murder in the first degree. Having in that Territory, the right to choose whether he should be hanged, beheaded or shot, he chose the latter form of execution, and was accordingly sentenced to be shot on the twenty-sixth of January, 1877.

BOOK OF PROVERBS.

In all the literature of heathen antiquity there is no collection of maxims for the wise conduct of life that will for a moment compare in excellence with this that bears the name of Solomon. I have before me a modern collection of proverbs numbering more than twelve thousand, and through them all runs a vein of sarcasm, a constant and cruel hitting at the weak points of human nature, a keen and cultivated sagacity in looking for "the main chance." In this collection—four times as large as Solomon's—I find abundance of material to make men selfish and cunning and skeptical. We must go back to the old inspired Book of Proverbs to find the best lessons to teach men purity, and justice, and generosity towards each other; reverence, and faith, and love towards God.

The sacred book is adapted to all times and to all persons. It is especially fitted to teach the lesson of calmness and moderation and self control in those times of hate and excitement and wild expectation. It is just the book to teach the young how to make the most and best of life while they live, and how to be always ready for a higher and better life to come. The young man who makes the Proverbs his companion and counselor cannot fail to bear himself nobly in any position, and to give a good account of his work, when it is done. The grief that consumes the heart of the defeated and dishonored will never come on him. Whatever the position which he holds in the world, he will make it honorable by the nobleness and fidelity with which he fulfills its duties. The trials, burdens, and temptations of the world, will only give beauty and strength to the character which is built up by a diligent study of this book, and by daily obedience to its sacred maxims. Let the young take their early lessons of truth and purity, of temperance and industry, of patience and kindness, of faith and piety from this infallible guide, and the best that the world has to give shall be theirs, and when they pass away from the world their names shall be held in everlasting remembrance.—Dr. March in *Presbyterian at Work*.

GOV. TILDEN ON HORSEBACK.

I had started on again, in a sort of brown study, when a solitary horseman turned the corner right in front of me. I looked up, and behold there was the very identical man. I had a chance to observe our ex-Governor's face before he passed, and a calmer or pleasanter face I have not seen in a long time. Not a shadow of anxiety there, not a line indicating uneasiness or concern about the momentous proceedings in Washington. He was out for his regular afternoon's ride, and so far as any observer could judge, he had left all the cares of politics behind. I have seen Gov. Tilden a number of times in the past few years, but I never saw him look so well as he did yesterday, sitting as straight and firm in the saddle as an old cuirassier, and seeming so fresh and buoyant as a man of forty. I am told that he does not worry himself at all about the pros and cons of White House possibilities, and that he heads but little of what is published daily on that subject. He knows exactly what the situation is, and he does not want to have his habitual composure ruffled by keeping the run of this, that, and the other, new statement disclosure, so called. At all events, he won't allow anything in that line to depress him of his regular two hours in the saddle, and he keeps the matter as far from him in his comfortable home, facing Gramercy Park as the circumstance will allow. If Congress and the electoral tribunal decide the great question against him, I much doubt if Gov. Tilden will lose one hour's sleep in consequence.—*Buffalo Courier*.

A HINT TO THE PRESIDENT.

The great living General has only three more Sundays left for didactic purposes, and he will find that when those three Sundays have been passed, the now attentive agents of the Associated Press will no longer care to listen to his "views." We take the liberty to recommend for the remaining Sunday talks the following topics: 1. The value of Secession sandstone, in government architecture. 2. Our relations with Cuba. 3. How to prevent the manufacture of crooked whiskey. The President may be especially interested in these subjects, but the country is. Let him say as the patriotic Pickett said: "D—n my interest; think of the interest of forty millions of people!"—*N. Y. Sun*.

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION.

We clip the following special telegram and item from the *Atlantic Constitution*:

Florida has gone glimmering. Democratic indignation is fatigued, calm resignation has come. The democrats now have no hope but Oregon, and that is exceedingly slim. Having stolen Florida, the returning board will not hesitate on a technicality. Plotted, of Maine, a leading republican could see no possible way of getting around throwing out one vote from Oregon. Blackburn, who was on the Louisiana committee, says this evening, that there are two ineligible republican electors in Louisiana certain, who will be thrown out under the ruling of the board. I dropped in at the Tilden headquarters to night and asked Mr. Cook what the outlook was. He replied: "We will whip the fight, there is no doubt of it. If you find a democrat weakening, give us his name and we will pay his way home. He has no business here," at which Mr. Charles O'Connor laughed and exclaimed: "That's the way to talk!" A further talk showed several contingencies under which the Tilden men hope for victory but I must confess they are remote chances. The radicals are determined to hold their judges down to business. I am afraid Gov. Brown will have to unwind his red bandana and get on a peace footing.

There doesn't seem to be any lack in odd numbers for the democrats. Seven is odd enough, but nine, in the present emergency, would be odder and luckier.

Florida has been wiped off the political blackboard. We hang it all! Florida isn't much of a State anyhow—at least the carpet bag part of it.

If Hayes goes in, the radicals can justly claim that they have dined on the fragments of the republic—that is to say they eat it up.

What the country needs is more honest men and two more democrats on the national returning boards.

We cannot help hugging the hope to our bosom that Oregon will prove to be the lion in the radical path.

The majority of that commission is a slippery crowd, and for that reason the radicals are much excited.

There stands Cronin for them to crawl over.

We had supposed that the grand commission was a board in equity, or something of that kind, but if the members count in Hayes we shall consider them a board of iniquity.

ENEMIES.

Have you enemies? Go straight, on and mind them not. If they block up your path, walk around them, and do your duty regardless of their spite. A man who has no enemies is seldom good for anything; he is made of that kind of material which is so easily worked, that every one has a hand in it. A sterling character, one who thinks for himself, and speaks what he thinks is always sure to have enemies. They are necessary to him as fresh air; the keep him alive and active. A celebrated character who was surrounded with enemies, used to remark: "They are sparks which, if you do not blow, will go out of themselves." Let this be your feeling while endeavoring to live down the scandal of those who are bitter against you. If you stop to dispute, you do but as they desire, and open the way for more abuse. Let the poor fellows talk; there will be a reaction if you perform but your duty, and hundreds who were once alienated from you will flock to you and acknowledge their error.—*Alexander's Messenger*.

PAYMENT IN NIGGERS.

Some time since a distinguished citizen of North Carolina was in New York, and, in conversation with a somewhat pompous bank officer, the latter asked him if North Carolina would pay her old State debt. "Yes," was the reply, "she is able to pay it and she is going to do it." "What!" said the banker, "will she pay the whole debt, old and new, at par?" "Yes," replied the North Carolinian. "How?" asked the bank officer. "She will pay it," was the reply, "in negroes valued at one thousand dollars each." "Ah, but we have freed your negroes," was the response of the banker. "But retorted the North Carolinian, 'We have got your money for our bonds.' Some people think this is the only way in which our State debt will be paid."—*Raleigh (N. C.) Observer*.

Do you reside in this town? asked a masked man of a masked lady at a masquerade ball recently. He felt sick when she said to him in a low voice: "Don't be a fool John; I know you by that wart on your thumb." It was his wife.

"Sing Sing!" shouted the brakeman, as a Hudson River train slowed up to this station. "Five years for refreshments!" yelled a passenger with short hair and braids, as he rose to leave the car in charge of a deputy sheriff.

A young woman in Rochester, N. Y. has sued for damages a man who kissed her. A man who can't kiss a woman without damaging her ought to pay for his awkwardness.

FASHION NOTES.

Square veils are revived.

Plush bonnets are in demand.

Square neckties are sought for.

Chenille lace is a charming novelty.

Half dresses are made in the princess style.

Lace is no longer used for bonnet trimmings.

Chenille and plush are in high favor for trimmings.

The Russian palette is the newest outdoor garment.

Flower trimmings are the rage of the passing moment.

Bonnets are worn almost to the exclusion of hats Paris.

White cashmere is still the favorite material for morning robes.

Flower garnitures are much worn on evening dresses this winter.

Artistic dress holders came in fashion among the New Year's knickknacks.

Far linings to cloaks and jackets are giving place to those of quilted silk.

The robe habit of the Louis XIV. style is the dress of the moment in Paris.

Neckchiefs of white or cream China crepe and edged with fine lace are much worn.

Buttons are now placed on the bottom of corsets to which the underskirt is attached.

Beautiful ribbons of plush, with satin lining, are among the latest imported novelties.

Necklaces in real lace, with pendants of various styles, have taken the place of lace collars.

Historic toilets copied from paintings of many centuries ago obtain high favor among the Parisians.

Tightly fitting socks of ottor or seal are coming into vogue, worn over long clinging polonaises.

Rich India shawls are again in vogue. They are worn over long polonaises by Parisian women for full dress.

Aunucheries in a great variety of shades, and elaborately trimmed and ornamented, are in great favor.

The Russian palette is so much like a gentleman's coat it will recommend itself to ladies who affect masculine styles.

Bonnets of marine blue velvet, trimmed with deep red, are seen in some of our leading milliners' show-rooms.

Painters of great talent do not disdain at the moment to compose special pictures for the fans of the grande dames of Paris.

Album-fans, each stick painted by different artists, with a subject of their own selection, are among the New Year's novelties in Paris.

The newest pocket handkerchiefs are of cream or ecru foulard silk, with initials of monograms artistically worked in blue, red or brown silk.

Ladies who wear to petticoats attach a handsome flounce with buttons and buttonholes to the lower part of their flannel undergarments or the short balmyr.

The newest thing in sleeve buttons are separable; that is, the two parts are connected with a spring and no button-hole is required, eyelets permitting the shank to pass through.

THE WAY TO TREAT WOMEN.

What to do with our daughters:

Teach them self-reliance.

Teach them to make bread.

Teach them to make shirts.

Teach them not to wear false hair.

Teach them not to paint and powder.

Teach them to wear thick warm shoes.

Teach them how to wash and iron clothes.

Teach them how to make their own dresses.

Teach them how to cook a good meal.

Teach them to wear calico dresses—and do it like a queen.

Teach them to say no, and mean it.

Teach them how to darn stockings and sew on buttons.

Teach them to regard the morals, not the money, of beaux.

Give them a good, substantial common school education.

Teach them that a good round rowl rump is worth fifty delicate am-mittives.

Teach them to have nothing to do with dissolute young men.

Teach them accomplishments—music, painting, drawing—if you have time and money to do it with.

Teach them to cultivate a garden.

Teach them that God made them in his own image, and that no amount of tight lacing will improve the model.

Teach them that a good, steady mason will, without a cent, is worth a dozen oil painted leaders in broadcloth.

Teach them the essentials of life—truth, honesty, uprightness—and at a suitable time let them marry.

An Irishman says the times are so hard that he has parted with all his wardrobe but the arm holes of his waistcoat.

We find that he came to his death from trying to cut out Joe Willet in sewing.

Susie Jackson, was the verdict recently of a coroner's jury in Arkansas.

A clerk who was told by a sergeant to remember "his wife" replied that he had trouble enough with his own, without remembering any other man's wife.

The veil which covers the face of future life is woven by the hand of tragedy.

THE HIGH COMMISSION REFUSES TO GO BEHIND THE RETURNING BOARD.

LOUISIANA FOR HAYES.

On Friday night the High Commission earned for itself the character of a thoroughly partisan body, by authenticating by its act, the infamous proceedings of the Returning Board of Louisiana. After this it is idle to hope for any future chances in favor of Tilden.

The Commission decided that no evidence could be received in the Louisiana case except the electoral certificate, those certificates issued from authority not legal, framed on the report of a Board incomplete, based upon evidence fabricated and mutilated for its base use.

Agreeing to the arbitration of the Commission, we see nothing but submission to its decision. Yet the feeling is irresistible that the Democratic party has been betrayed by its trust in a possible existence of honesty and purity in a body composed so largely of the Conservative element of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Democratic party has been deceived, has been betrayed. Yet its leaders are to be charged with neither weakness nor folly. They did what seemed wisest to do in a crisis of fearful moment; in a crisis, the direct issue of which in all apparent probability was the renewal of fearful civil war, unless some reference of the subject was made to a body thought to be wise, pure and impartial. Few Democrats would find fault with the Commission if its decision had been otherwise. When it is, as it has been rendered, let them not do the injustice to wreak their disappointment upon the authors or advocates of a measure which has resulted in disaster.

NEEDFUL AMENDMENTS.

Two propositions are now before the Legislature for the Amendment of the Constitution in points upon which it is to be regretted action was not consummated by the Constitutional Convention. They were both agitated in that body, but the majority was too small to insure success, and they were neither of them presented as ordinances.

Upon both, we have heretofore freely expressed opinions, and we are glad to find endorsement now when there is hope that our views will be carried out.

One of them is a proposition introduced by Mr. Crawford of Rowan to submit to the people an amendment, requiring the pre-payment of a poll tax the pre-requisite for voting. Even as the first glance, the equity of this proposition is apparent, and the more it is examined the stronger do its claims become. The only objection urged is that it would oppress the poor man, or that it is aimed at that majority which has up to the last election controlled the State. But what right has any man to claim exemption from a burden or a duty that ought to fall equally on all? What right has any man to claim the benefit and protection of State laws, or of civilized society who repudiates his obligations to bear his share in the contributions that keep the machinery of that government in force?

The people are interested in seeing that all pay the poll tax. If all paid, the burden would fall lighter upon those who have heretofore borne the whole of it.

The delinquents would add so large an amount, that in future assessments would be smaller, or if continued as at present, would largely increase the benefits of taxation.

The other is a proposition by Mr. Staples of Guilford to submit an amendment to the Constitution exempting capital invested in manufactures from taxation for a period of years.

On the first blush, this may appear to be legislation in favor of the rich or of the few. But it will not bear such construction. It is the first step to take to make this State what nature intended it, one of the first manufacturing States in the Union. Its effects upon our people would be to attract investments from among our own citizens and divert their hearings or their earnings to useful enterprises at home. Its effect elsewhere would be to attract manufactures from abroad, overcrowded at home, and crippled by sharp competition, to this State where the usual consequences would follow—the stimulation of all industries, the increase of population, the encouragement of agriculture by the provision of near and good markets, the diffusion of money, the increase of subjects of taxation, the enhancement of state revenue, and the diminution of the burden of taxation upon the people.

We hope both these measures will be perfected in the last remaining days of the session, and that they will, as they ought, meet hearty favor from the people.

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION.

THE LOUISIANA CASE.

As we write, the Electoral Commission is in the midst of the next case which called for the exercise of its duties. All the States between Florida and Louisiana having been counted upon the face of the returns without contest.

Before any paper goes to press the question will have been decided, the issue of the election will be settled, and the result will be known.

It is upon the subject of Louisiana that the Commission is now engaged. It is a case which has attracted the attention of the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden. It is a case which has attracted the attention of the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden. It is a case which has attracted the attention of the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden.

That Commission has under its consideration the members of the Returning Board of Louisiana, culprits in the eyes of Congress, criminals in the eyes of the people, and the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden.

But we will not lose sight of the fact that the Commission is now engaged in the case of Louisiana, and the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden.

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DEATH OF CALVIN GRAVES.

This gentleman died last week at a very advanced age at his residence in this county. He has lived a long and useful life.

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That Commission has under its consideration the members of the Returning Board of Louisiana, culprits in the eyes of Congress, criminals in the eyes of the people, and the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden.

But we will not lose sight of the fact that the Commission is now engaged in the case of Louisiana, and the friends of Mr. Hayes, and the friends of Mr. Tilden.

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Upon both, we have heretofore freely expressed opinions, and we are glad to find endorsement now when there is hope that our views will be carried out.

One of them is a proposition introduced by Mr. Crawford of Rowan to submit to the people an amendment, requiring the pre-payment of a poll tax the pre-requisite for voting. Even as the first glance, the equity of this proposition is apparent, and the more it is examined the stronger do its claims become.

The delinquents would add so large an amount, that in future assessments would be smaller, or if continued as at present, would largely increase the benefits of taxation.

The other is a proposition by Mr. Staples of Guilford to submit an amendment to the Constitution exempting capital invested in manufactures from taxation for a period of years.

On the first blush, this may appear to be legislation in favor of the rich or of the few. But it will not bear such construction. It is the first step to take to make this State what nature intended it, one of the first manufacturing States in the Union.

Its effects upon our people would be to attract investments from among our own citizens and divert their hearings or their earnings to useful enterprises at home. Its effect elsewhere would be to attract manufactures from abroad, overcrowded at home, and crippled by sharp competition, to this State where the usual consequences would follow.

We hope both these measures will be perfected in the last remaining days of the session, and that they will, as they ought, meet hearty favor from the people.

KEEP IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE.

Richmond Whig.

At the State of North Carolina, in the County of Hillsborough, the undersigned, Clerk of the Court, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Electoral Commission.

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Commission as he (Mr. Morton) heard them, he would have made his remarks. The time would have been when the members of the Commission would have been in the room, and the members of the Commission would have been in the room.

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Dr. D. A. Robertson. Surgeon Dentist. Office up stairs in Berry's brick building.

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